

#### **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

On behalf of the Stanly County Board of Commissioners, it is my pleasure to present to the community the 14th annual Report to the People. This annual report helps demonstrate and highlight programs and activities that are carried out for the benefit of the public and our taxpayers. It is the County's goal to provide services in the most effective and financially responsible way.

Below please find a list of some, but not all, of the major accomplishments in 2017:

- Maintained the tax rate for the 11th consecutive year
- Increased operational funding and capital funding to the local school system
- Provided an additional \$150,000 for teacher supplements
- Purchased 76 acres on Browns Hill Rd. in Stanfield for the development of the Riverstone Industrial Park
- Secured a \$950,000 NC Commerce grant to offset the cost of running utilities to the new Riverstone Industrial Park
- Consolidated and began the process of integrating health and social services to better align resources and streamline the process for accessing and delivering services
- Increased funding for additional EMS personnel
- Increased funding for additional Sheriff's Office personnel to assist with increased drug enforcement
- Secured a \$500,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation to improve the delivery and reliability of water services in the Greater Badin district
- Continued the planning and fundraising efforts for a new livestock arena at the Agri-Civic Center

The Board of Commissioners has established strategic areas of focus such as enhancing education and workforce development, increasing job opportunities, improving public safety and expanding utility services. Progress is being made, and the Board will continue to identify investments that will improve our overall performance.

We believe the information contained in this report demonstrates our commitment to outstanding customer service and a results-oriented government. Please take a few moments to review and do not hesitate to contact any of the County Commissioners if you have questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Joseph L. Burleson, Chairman Stanly County Board of Commissioners

**Pictured Left to Right:** 

Ashley Morgan, Bill Lawhon, Gene McIntyre, Vice-Chairman Joseph Burleson, Chairman, Matthew Swain, Scott Efird, Jann Lowder



#### **TRANSPORTATION**

### Airport

The airport continues to see growth in both general aviation and military activities.

Pressley Aviation, Inglewood Aviation and Dallas Airmotive continue to offer their services to the aviation community from the airport.



The 235th Air Traffic Squadron continues to support the airport and tower activities.

Began Environmental Assessment and planning a new airport layout to integrate the new requirements to accommodate the conversion from C130H to C17 aircraft. The conversion will have a significant impact on the airport as we continue to provide support for military training exercises.

SCUSA provides safe, reliable transportation to all Stanly County citizens with a goal of excellent customer service. In an effort to make our service even more affordable, we received a United Way Venture Grant to help offset fares to work for citizens who regularly use our service for work and education-related transportation.

Staff participates in ongoing training to ensure industry best practices are followed to provide the safest, most costeffective coordinated public transportation





### **CULTURE & RECREATION**

# Stanly County Agri-Civic Center • Fire Alarm/Sprinkler System

- Inspection and Remediation
- Electronic/Handicap Access Opener installed on main entrance door
- Lobby Expansion/Renovations including installation of new Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) flooring throughout entire Lobby
- The Friends of the Agri-Civic Center (FACC) contributed \$25,000 towards the Lobby floor



Lobby Expansion at the Agri-Civic Center

Stanly County Library & History Center

END

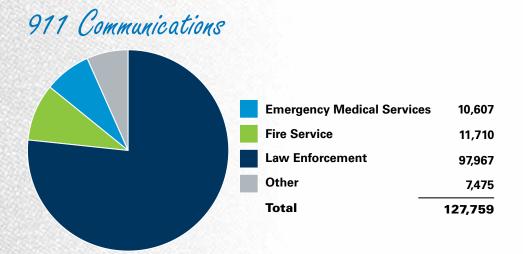
The Stanly County Museum and Margaret Johnston Heritage Room relocated to the new History Center located on 2nd Street in Albemarle (formally City Hall Annex). The weekly Time Traveling Toddlers and the monthly STEM programs are held at the History Center.

- The number of visitors to the Stanly County Museum increased significantly after the move, increasing from 1,503 in 2016 to 2,445 in 2017.
- The Historical Society has an average of 100 monthly participants.
- time with our new interactive board. The Heritage Room at the Main Branch was converted into our new Learning Lounge. This space is used to
- conduct our storytime programs while maintaining a guiet library. Received a \$5,000 grant from the Stanly County Community Foundation to
- purchase an Aquos Smart Board and added online ebooks from Tumblebooks used during story times; these interactive books can be checked out by all library cardholders.
- All library branches offer interactive programs for their communities.
- 3,246 children participated in 100 programs across the county to encourage reading during the summer.
- The libraries and museum could not offer many of these wonderful programs and services to the citizens of Stanly County without help from the Stanly County Friends of the Library and the Stanly County Historical Society.



Miss Glenda combining traditional story

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**



# Emergency Management

Stanly County Emergency Services is a tiered department: Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Service (EMS), and the Fire Marshal's Office (FMO).

Emergency Management defines an 'all-hazards' approach to preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation of any natural, man-made or terrorist disaster. This is a revolving, cyclic process. Annually,

EM identifies and/or prioritizes all hazard vulnerabilities or any new threats and updates the Emergency Operation Plan accordingly. The EM office has been actively involved in monitoring the new towers for the Public Safety Radio System. Wireless monitoring devices were placed on the tower generators to provide live notifications for alarms which assures constant functionality. We continue to maintain a Storm Ready status, monitoring for severe weather throughout the year. The Local Emergency Planning Committee also continues with an 'all-hazards' approach to disaster planning.



# Want to be in the know?

Visit the Stanly County Government website to sign up for notifications from Emergency Management and other important notices that affect our community! www.stanlycountync.gov

**Emergency Medical Services** continues to adapt and grow with the ever changing pre-hospital medical practices.

• We responded to approximately 10,198 calls in 2017. We continue to operate six (6) Advanced Life Support Ambulances and experienced a 7.6% increase in our overall call volume. Our training department continues to stay abreast of the changes in the local and national pre-hospital environment and works with our New Medical Director, Dr. Christine Hall to implement changes in our treatment policies and protocols to ensure we are providing the highest quality of care possible. New Region I protocols were implemented on January 1, 2018, placing Stanly EMS on the forefront of field medicine. EMS now has the opportunity to participate in new innovative medical procedures and field medicine studies. All EMS units were equipped with GPS Mobile Vehicle Tracking System and Fleet Management software. The system provides real time vehicle location, trip history, engine diagnostic data, unsafe driver behavior data maximizing safety and fleet efficiency.

The Fire Marshal's Office continues to strive for excellence in service.

- Conducted 547 fire inspections and reviewed 85 commercial plans.
- Responded to 73 fire investigations/calls for service and continues to make comprehensive fire investigations a priority. Staff from the Fire Marshal's Office also completed numerous hours of training in various fields ranging from fire investigations to emergency management and participated in joint training exercises with local and state partners.
- Please remember everyone needs a smoke alarm in their home! Should anyone have a need or know of anyone needing a FREE smoke alarm installed, please contact the Stanly County Fire Marshal's Office. The Fire Marshal's Office, our local Fire Departments and other Public Safety professionals continue to work together and create new partnerships to assist in the arena of Fire & Life Safety Education Programs.

# Sheriff's Office Operations & Public Safety

	2016	2017
Calls for service	16,045	16,976
Alarm Calls – Residential & Business	677	654
Building & Residential Security Checks	2,953	4,746
Breaking & Entering (Residential & Business)	229	303
Breaking & Entering (Vehicles)	43	49
Civil Debt Collections	\$47,149	\$15,670
Criminal & Civil Processes Served	7,263	7,445
Continuing Education/In-Service Training Hours	4,554	4,453
Criminal reports filed	2,869	3,020
Domestic Violence Assaults	142	111
Domestic Violence Orders Entered	131	115
Drug Values & Drug Money Seized	\$41,541	\$110,040
Evictions	177	223
Handguns Purchase Permits	2,544	1,845
Concealed Handgun Permits & Renewals	1,422	1,265
K-9 assistance requests	43	168
Sexual Assaults	16	13
Stolen property recovered	\$91,091	\$217,310
Stolen vehicles recovered	15	23
Warrants	1,004	901

#### **Detention Center Operations**

	2016	2017
Bookings Processed	2,969	2,873
Average daily population	97	116
Average inmate stay (days)	12	15

# Inspections & Central Permitting

Permit Type	2015	2016	2017
Residential Building Permits	145	198	257
Mobile Homes	42	31	33
Residential Remodels, Additions, Alterations	212	223	193
Commercial New Construction	135	90	88
Commercial Remodels, Additions, Alterations	124	119	117
Electrical Permits	952	1,013	1,032
Mechanical Permits	914	867	936
Plumbing Permits	505	563	647
Other Permits	86	55	52
Totals	3,115	3,159	3,355

#### **2017 Major Building Permits**

Central Rural Fire Department	\$1,700,000
Greystone Middle School	\$1,674,000
Greystone Middle School Gym	\$1,000,243

Permit Type	2015 Construction Value	2016 Construction Value	2017 Construction Value
Residential Building	\$25,029,760	\$32,143,497	\$40,816,203
Mobile Homes	\$896,520	\$1,174,032	\$1,738,701
Residential Remodels, Additions, Alterations	\$4,616,653	\$6,390,503	\$5,363,596
Commercial New Construction	\$25,529,107	\$8,973,509	\$11,513,101
Commercial Remodels, Additions, Alterations	\$16,660,564	\$16,745,860	\$13,151,830
Totals	\$72,732,604	\$65,427,401	\$72,583,431

#### Inspections

	2015	2016	2017
Number of Inspections Performed	9,507	11,803	12,787
Plans Approved	114	179	139



#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## Soil and Water Conservation Service

The mission of the Stanly Soil and Water Conservation District is to provide education, information and technical assistance to citizens of Stanly County for the conservation of our soil and water resources.

 With support from business organizations, stakeholders, and conservation partners, the District presented soil



and water conservation information, environmental science instruction, project-based learning workshops, and/or outdoor learning activities to approximately 3,400 individuals. Some of the groups receiving services include public, private, parochial and home schools; daycares; 4-H groups; assisted living facilities, churches, civic groups; agricultural producers; and environmental enthusiasts.

- The District sold 7,850 feet (1.5 miles) of erosion control materials to prevent soil erosion and soil loss, which is paramount to good water quality.
- Five hundred Eastern Red Cedar seedlings were sold for windbreaks, erosion control, farm enhancement and home landscaping. This service benefits small landowners who want to plant in small quantities.
- Stanly Soil & Water rents a no-till seed drill to landowners for the purpose
  of improving soil health and decreasing erosion. It was used 25 times on
  237.6 acres; the drill generated \$3,598 in revenue for the District.
- The cost share program encumbered \$56,272 in contracts designed to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality within the county.

# Solid Waste

#### Materials Handled at Convenience Sites

	2016	2017
Household trash	6,708 tons	6,547 tons
Recyclable materials	506 tons	490 tons
Used oil	7,159 gallons	10,335 gallons
Oil filters	9-55 gallon drums	14-55 gallon drums
Electronics	552 tons	100,535 tons
Household hazardous waste	71,561 tons	50,834 tons

# Save the Date!

The next Household Hazardous Waste event set for April 14, 9:00 am-1:00 pm in the parking lot of the Agri-Civic Center located at 26032 Newt Road, Albemarle.

Safely dispose of paint, pesticides, old electronics, and more! This is a free event for Stanly County citizens!

#### **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

# Health Department

The Stanly County Health Department's mission is to protect, promote and preserve the health and environment of the citizens and communities of Stanly County. Services provided by the Stanly County Health Department include Child Health, Adult Health, Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, Dental Clinic, WIC, Family Planning, Communicable Disease, Maternal Health, Home Health, Pregnancy Care Management, Care Coordination for Children, Environmental Health and Animal Control.

- The WIC (Women, Infants, & Children Program) served a monthly average of 656 women and children and had a caseload of 1,453.
- Implemented an employee health clinic for county employees to help address increasing costs of medical care. There were 1,003 visits to the employee health clinic.
- The children's dental clinic provided services through 7,475 clinic visits and provided dental treatment to 178 patients through the operating room at CHS Stanly Hospital. The clinic is continuing to provide free dental sealants to all 2nd and 3rd graders at all Stanly County Schools. The dental clinic participated in a research project with UNC Chapel Hill for Silver Diamine Fluoride placement.
- Stanly County Home Health Agency maintained an average monthly caseload of 165 and conducted 14,019 patient visits.
- Environmental Health completed 1,061 Food and Lodging visits related to the inspection of food service, institution, daycare, and lodging facilities.
   There were 1,450 site visits related to on-site water protection program were made, and 300 water samples were collected from private drinking water wells.
- Animal Control handled 1,176 stray or unwanted pets. There were 134
  animals reclaimed by owners and 142 adopted or placed in new homes.
   Special rabies clinics in the county resulted in vaccinations of 227 dogs
  and 35 cats.
- The 2017 State of the County Health Report provided a review of health and human services data to monitor the health status of the county. It highlights efforts that are underway to address priority community health concerns of substance abuse, heart disease, and suicide.
- Coordinated efforts of the Stanly County Partners in Health Coalition, which promotes activities to address community health issues such as obesity, injury prevention, substance use disorders, physical activity and tobacco use. Efforts continue in the implementation of the Project Lazarus model that has been successful in other counties in addressing prescription drug abuse. Some of the Project Lazarus implementations include medication drop boxes, community education on proper medication storage, and overdose awareness.
- In collaboration with Partners in Health coalition, continued to support the efforts of the Stanly County Minority Health Council, which seeks to improve health outcomes for minority populations and reduce health disparities.
- With the goal of increasing the availability of high quality and nutritious foods to families with the greatest risk of having poor health, the Stanly Commons Farmers Market continues to be coordinated by the health department and is able to accept SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as Food Stamps), Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers (provided to WIC patients) and fruit and vegetable prescription vouchers (John P. Murray Community Care Clinic patients).
- To encourage families to engage in physical activity in Stanly County's parks, Partners in Health coalition members and health department staff coordinated the annual Golden Shoe event. The event included eight parks located across the county and reported participants of all ages. It achieved the goal of encouraging physical fitness with 95% of participants reporting that they engaged in physical activity other than shoe hunting while at the parks.

 In collaboration with multiple community agencies including Daymark, Will's Place, Oakboro Police Department, Cardinal Innovations, Carolinas Healthcare System Stanly, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, 33 Recovery, the health department helped shape the foundation for Project First Step. Project First Step's mission is to remove barriers to detox and treatment and assist participants in building a recovery support system.

### Social Services

The mission of the Stanly County Department of Social Services is to promote self-sufficiency, and to protect and improve the quality of life for Stanly County residents. The agency provides services to protect vulnerable adults and children, promote economic stability, and increase access to health care and nutrition. Approximately 155 individuals visit the agency on a daily basis.

#### Assistance Programs, Eligibility Requirements and Service Data

Work First Employment	Assists job seekers with training, education, and support services to prepare them to become self-sufficient	<b>16</b> families served
Crisis Intervention	Assists individuals and families with payment for heating or cooling emergencies which are life or health-threatening	Provided <b>\$188,242</b> in assistance to local families
Low Income Energy Assistance (LIEAP)	Assists low income households with the cost of heating	Provided <b>\$150,800</b> to local families
Food and Nutrition	Improves quality of nutrition for low- income households	Provided \$11,548,748 to local families
Child Support Enforcement	Promotes parental responsibility and reduces welfare dependency by locating absent parents, establishing paternity and support obligations, and enforcing support payments	Collected <b>\$4,128,581</b> in Child Support payments
Day Care	Purchased from private day care centers to enable parents to maintain employment, attend educational and job training classes, and to ensure the safety of children	Paid <b>\$1,906,298</b> to local daycare providers
Foster care	Provides temporary placements for children in licensed foster homes or group homes	Worked with 20 licensed foster families to provide care for our foster children; provided placement responsibility for 35 children
In-home Services	Available to aged and disabled adults who are unable to perform essential household and personal care tasks for themselves	22 adults received services
Community Alternative Program (CAP)	Medicaid program which can pay for in-home services, nursing visits, and medical supplies for certain individuals so that they can remain in their own homes	88 adults received services
Medical Assistance (Medicaid)	Provides payment for basic medical care to elderly and disabled adults and families based on need, income, and resources	11,723 individuals per month received assistance

The department is required by law to receive and investigate reports of abuse or neglect of children. If abuse or neglect is found to exist, services must be provided to protect the child from further abuse and neglect and help the parents learn to provide better care for the child. 720 child abuse and/or neglect reports were received; of those, 456 were evaluated to determine the level of services needed.



These honorees came ready to "rock around the clock" at our 90+ Birthday Party Sock Hop.

### Senior Services

Since 1986, the Senior Services Department has been providing quality services, programs, activities and opportunities to promote and enhance the well-being of seniors.

- The Stanly County Senior Center was recertified in June 2017 as a NC Senior Center of Excellence.

  The Senior Center has been at this high level of certification since 2007. This level of certification identifies our Senior Center as having the best practices in numerous areas such as staffing, programming, outreach and planning to the citizens.
- Provided over 100 activities, programs, classes and trips to seniors.
- Offered Evidence Based Health Promotion classes which were Living Healthy Chronic Disease Self-Management, Matter of Balance Fall Prevention, Powerful Tools for the Caregivers and Living Healthy with Diabetes.
- Approximately 24,136 citizens visited the Center for programs, classes and activities.
- Continued our partnership to provide and promote Uwharrie Senior Games and Silver Arts (USG) in which approximately 100 seniors age 55+ in Stanly and Montgomery Counties compete in fun and competitive events.
- In-Home Aide Services and Family Caregiver Support Programs assisted 115 seniors and their families with 17,730 hours of direct assistance with home management, respite, and personal care as well as 92 days of care at CARE Café group respite. Participants receiving these services made voluntary contributions totaling \$4,289.
- Sponsored 15th annual CareFest with 34 vendor agencies represented to share information about services in the county and 137 participants in attendance.
- Received United Way funding for In Home Services which allows us to serve an approximately 15 clients beyond what government funds pay for.
- The nutrition program served 16,960 congregate meals from the four sites in the county and 32,441 home delivered meals to 472 participants. Approximately 757 cases of supplemental nutrition drink such as Ensure Plus were issued to eligible seniors. Participants receiving services through the congregate and home delivered meal programs contributed approximately \$37,146 for the services received.
- Information and Options Counseling assisted 970 seniors or family members last year finding resources and assistance for their particular needs.

- Contracted with Stanly County Transportation (SCUSA) to provide 10,599 one-way trips for senior adults going to medical appointments, nutrition sites and other errands.
- Held annual 90+ Birthday Party for Stanly County residents with over 200 in attendance which included those 90 and older and their families. The oldest honoree was 107 years old.
- AARP Tax Aide volunteers prepared approximately 400 income tax returns.
- Secured a Grassroots Art Program grant through Stanly Co. Arts Council to
  offer a Senior Spirit Day event at EE Waddell Center. Approximately 90 people
  enjoyed lunch, screenings and a performance by the band Divided by Four.
- SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program) counselors provided free and unbiased one on one counseling and assistance about Medicare, Medicare prescription coverage, Medicare Advantage and other health insurance issues to 753 citizens last year. Senior Services coordinates this program for Stanly County.

### Veterans Services

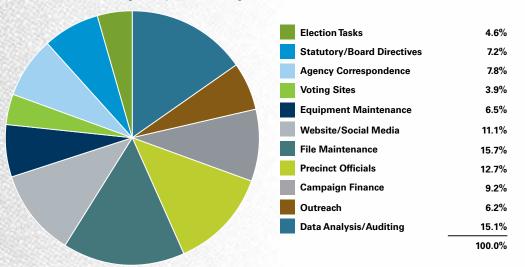
This office assists veterans, dependants and surviving spouses with applications and forms required for Federal, State and County benefits through the Veteran Administration. The Veteran Services Officer is the only fully-accredited representative that is authorized to represent the NC Division of Veterans Affairs and present claims before the US Dept. of Veteran Affairs in the county. This accreditation enables this office to access electronic files within the Veterans Administration to better assist all veterans and their families.

- Assisted over 3,300 Stanly County veterans, dependants and surviving spouses.
- College scholarships are available through this office for children of wartime NC Veterans. These scholarships are offered through the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs. Five (5) full scholarships were awarded to Stanly County high school seniors.
- Approximately \$575,000 in one-time back payments were awarded to veterans and their families as a result of claims submitted through this office. Recurring monthly payments totaling \$112,000 per month were also awarded.
- All services are free of charge and we continue to encourage all Veterans, dependants and surviving spouses to take advantage of all the services and benefits our Stanly County Veterans have earned.



#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

The Elections Department had a busy year with precinct consolidation workshops, polling place accessibility surveys, and precinct official appointments. We conducted a project analysis to improve office operations by detailing tasks and setting goals. The chart below outlines time distribution of our main tasks and the complete analysis can be found on our website. The Elections office also received a facelift including new paint, flooring, and office furniture.



Facilities Management

Facilities Management is responsible for all county road signs, nine (9) convenience sites and over twenty (20) buildings and grounds which are owned or occupied by county departments.

Facilities Management	Work orders	2,140
	Average work orders per day	8.66
	Hours spent on other facility projects	3,160.5
Sign Department	Road signs replaced or repaired	296
	Signs set up for Planning & Zoning	45

#### **Key Accomplishments:**

- Refinished floors (Senior Center)
- Replaced concrete at the south end parking lot (Courthouse)
- New Generator at radio tower (SCC)
- Replaced three HAVC units on the roof (Commons)
- Utilities moved into a new office (Guard Road)
- Remodel front office (Elections)
- Finished remodel at History Center
- Remodeled offices (Mapping/GIS)

Information Technology GIS
2017 was focused on security enhancements and switch upgrades. We rolled out

a next generation Anti-Virus/Anti-Malware solution that provides a commensurate level of protection against the sophisticated threats of today's cyber landscape. Given that the human error is usually the weakest link in the cyber security chain. we have implemented an end user cyber security awareness training program for all employees. We are in the process of a forklift upgrade on all network switches to provide all computer systems with more bandwidth, security, and manageability.

Register of Deeds
The Register of Deeds mission is public record keeping. It is the duty of this office to safeguard essential information which the people rely on to protect property rights and to prove occurrences of important life events. These documents are public record and range from real estate conveyances, deeds of trust, cancelations of deeds of trust, Uniform Commercial Codes, powers of attorney, assumed names, separation agreements, road maintenance agreements and many more. Military records can also be recorded for safekeeping, available only to the veteran or their widow.

- Processed 21,609 documents (increase of 12%)
- Excise tax receipts totaled \$448,614, (increase of 11%)
- Land transfers totaled 2,502 (increase of 15%)
- Bankruptcies went down 46%; Foreclosures went down 38%

We held our third "Thank You for Your Service" program to celebrate and honor our local veterans. More than 575 veterans have benefited from this program. In conjunction with the veterans program we held a silent auction raising \$1,595.00 for the Stanly County Veteran Relief Fund. We also hosted two Stanly County Blood Drives.



Bob Hooks and Mickey Drye at the Register of Deeds' "Thank You for Your Service" event.

#### ASSUMED BUSINESS NAMES IMPORTANT NOTICE OF LAW CHANGE

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2017, a new North Carolina law requires individuals, limited and general partnerships, limited liability companies, corporations, and other persons that engage in business in this state under an assumed name to file a certificate with a register of deeds. Amendments to and withdrawals of certificates of assumed business names also must comply with new content and execution requirements. These Certificates will be transmitted into a statewide, central database maintained by the N.C. Secretary of State, which will be available for searches by the public. The Secretary will maintain a website for this purpose at www.sosnc.gov/ abn/search. Forms are available in this office upon request and may be downloaded from Business Link North Carolina\* (BLNC). ALL certificates of assumed names filed under the prior law will EXPIRE DECEMBER 1, 2022. Someone desiring to engage in business in N.C. under the assumed name after that date must file an assumed business name certificate with the new form. N.C Session Laws 2016-100 and 2017-23 (codified at Article 14A of Chapter 66 of the N.C. General Statutes). \*https://edpnc.com/startor-grow-a-business/start-a-business/business-forms/.

# Tax Administration

The Stanly County Tax Administration Office is comprised of two sections: the Assessor's Office and the Collector's Office. The Assessor's Office includes Real Property, Personal Property, and Land Records/Mapping. The Assessor's Office is responsible for valuing all real estate, improvements to real estate, personal property, business personal property, and motor vehicles. Land Records/Mapping is responsible for keeping land ownership up to date by working closely with the Register of Deeds Office to record all land transfers and splits of parcels. The Collector's Office is charged with collecting the levy due Stanly County, ten Municipalities, thirteen Fire Districts, and two Special Districts. They also collect for nuisance liens and EMS bills.

- The Collector's Office yielded a 97.24% collection rate for FY16-17. This rate represents the highest on record. Collection enforcement methods utilized included Garnishments, Bank Attachments, Debt Setoff, Escheat, and Foreclosure. \$115,000+ of delinquent tax revenue was generated through the Foreclosure process.
- Land Records/Mapping section was moved to the Commons in September.
- The Real Property Division successfully completed the 2017 revaluation project which involved visiting/appraising all 38,000 parcels in the county over a four year time span. There is only one appeal pending before the Property Tax Commission relating to the revaluation project. Work has already begun on the 2021 Revaluation with appraisers visiting roughly 6,000 parcels thus far.
- The Personal Property Division processed 1,200 Homestead and Veterans exemptions, resulting in an exclusion amount of \$53,048,961 in value. The NC DMV "Tax and Tag" program is fully operational with the Assessor's Office processing an average of 5,016 registered motor vehicles monthly with a 99.63% collection rate. The Personal Property Division also sent out approximately 8,500 personal property listings and 3,200 business personal personal property listings.

### **ECONOMIC & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

# Cooperative Extension

Cooperative Extension programs are proactive in addressing issues identified by the Extension Advisory Board and seven advisory program committees led by Extension Agents within the







areas of agriculture, foods and 4-H Youth Development. Programs involved 10,451 citizens in direct services, events and activities. Another 28,703 citizens were indirectly contacted by telephone calls, e-mails, newsletters, and direct mailings. Informal educational opportunities for youth and adults were provided through non-credit classes. Agents secured grants and generated user fees along with gifts and donations totaling \$21,746 to supplement state and local dollars.

Volunteers increase the impact of what Cooperative Extension staff. 348 volunteers provided 34,367 hours of time valued at \$105,419 and provided educational information to 8,037 citizens.

Agriculture: Assisted 802 agricultural producers through programs to help them become more profitable and sustainable through increased knowledge of best management practices. 41 field crop growers and 424 livestock producers and other farmers adopted best management practices as a result of Extension programs and recommendations.

Safe and secure food and farms systems: Offered educational opportunities for private and commercial pesticide applicators to receive re-certification

credits. 78 private and commercial pesticide applicators earned credits to maintain their pesticide license, which enables applicators to use pesticides in accordance with NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Science regulations in an efficient and environmentally sound manner.

Foods: 1,487 youth and adults participated in programming addressing healthy eating, physical activity, and chronic disease risk reduction. Activities included: Steps to Health & Try Healthy - Nutrition Education Programs for third graders; a community garden project; a cooking show on the local cable channel that featured healthy recipes using local ingredients; a food preservation workshop, Speedway to Healthy Exhibit; Go, Glow, Grow nutrition education for preschoolers; Kids in the Kitchen Cooking Camps and Med Instead of Meds Workshops and Cooking Classes. 1,209 youth and 89 adults reported increasing their fruit and vegetable consumption; 170 participants reported they increased their physical activity; 19 participants reported consuming less sodium in their diets.

4-H Youth Development: 4-H is continues to offer positive youth development opportunities. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) continues to be a program focus. 18 teachers were trained in 4-H STEM curriculum and 752 youth reported increasing knowledge in STEM.

Planning & Zoning

The Planning Department works with landowners and developers to permit the best uses of property throughout the county. Planning focuses on growth areas identified in the 2010 Stanly County Land-Use Plan and on areas with infrastructure in place to support new development. Redevelopment of existing properties is encouraged as we support economic development efforts. Staff coordinated 11 rezoning or text change requests through the Planning Board, two (2) requests for Special Use Permits with the Board of Adjustment and nine (9) requests for Variances or Administrative Relief from setback and similar zoning requirements. Zoning enforcement ensures that property values and public safety are protected based on the county-wide zoning ordinance, public nuisance ordinance and minimum housing standards. Since 2010, nearly 60 abandoned manufactured homes have been removed through the Abandoned Manufactured Home Program, with approximately 80 others removed by the owners. Property owners with abandoned manufactured homes may apply to have these removed through this program. We collaborate with each municipality for a variety of services and code enforcement activities.

- Issued Zoning Compliance Permits for the municipalities of Albemarle, Misenheimer, Red Cross, Oakboro, Richfield, New London, Badin, Norwood and
- Enforced the Zoning Ordinance and Minimum Housing Code for the municipalities of New London, Badin, Norwood and Locust.
- Enforced the Public Nuisance Ordinances for New London, Badin and Norwood.

2017 Zoning Enforcement	New Cases	Cases Resolved	Ongoing
Stanly Min. Housing	6	2	15
Stanly Zoning Ordinance	89	82	44
Badin Min. Housing	2	1	7
Norwood Min. Housing	32	14	24
Locust Min. Housing	7	7	8
New London Zoning/Min. Housing/Nuisance	4	4	8

# Economic Development Commission

As the lead economic development agency for the area and the key contact with the NC Economic Development Partnership, the NC Department of Commerce, and the Charlotte Regional Partnership the Stanly County Economic Development Commission (EDC) worked on 30 new projects for the year. 2017 was a year of transition for the Department, hiring a new Director and new Economic Development



Water. Air. Land. Innovation.

Assistant to reorganize activities in this important function. Activity was brisk on eight projects with multiple client visits and phone calls which led to an announcement early in 2018. The EDC staff also worked on increasing industry outreach with existing industry visits, a survey, and follow ups.

The EDC assisted in the purchase of property in the Stanfield/Locust area to develop as an industrial park. Marketing efforts are underway to bring in businesses that are looking for sites that are close to I-485 and the Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

#### Unemployment Rate\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

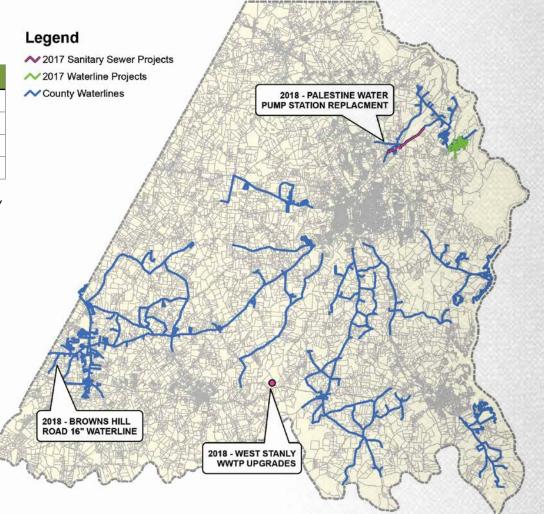
	Dec. 2015	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017
Stanly County	4.9%	4.6%	4.2%
Charlotte Region	4.9%	4.6%	4.2%
North Carolina	5.3%	4.9%	4.4%
United States	4.8%	4.7%	4.1%

<sup>\*</sup> Source: North Carolina Department of Commerce Division of Employment Security

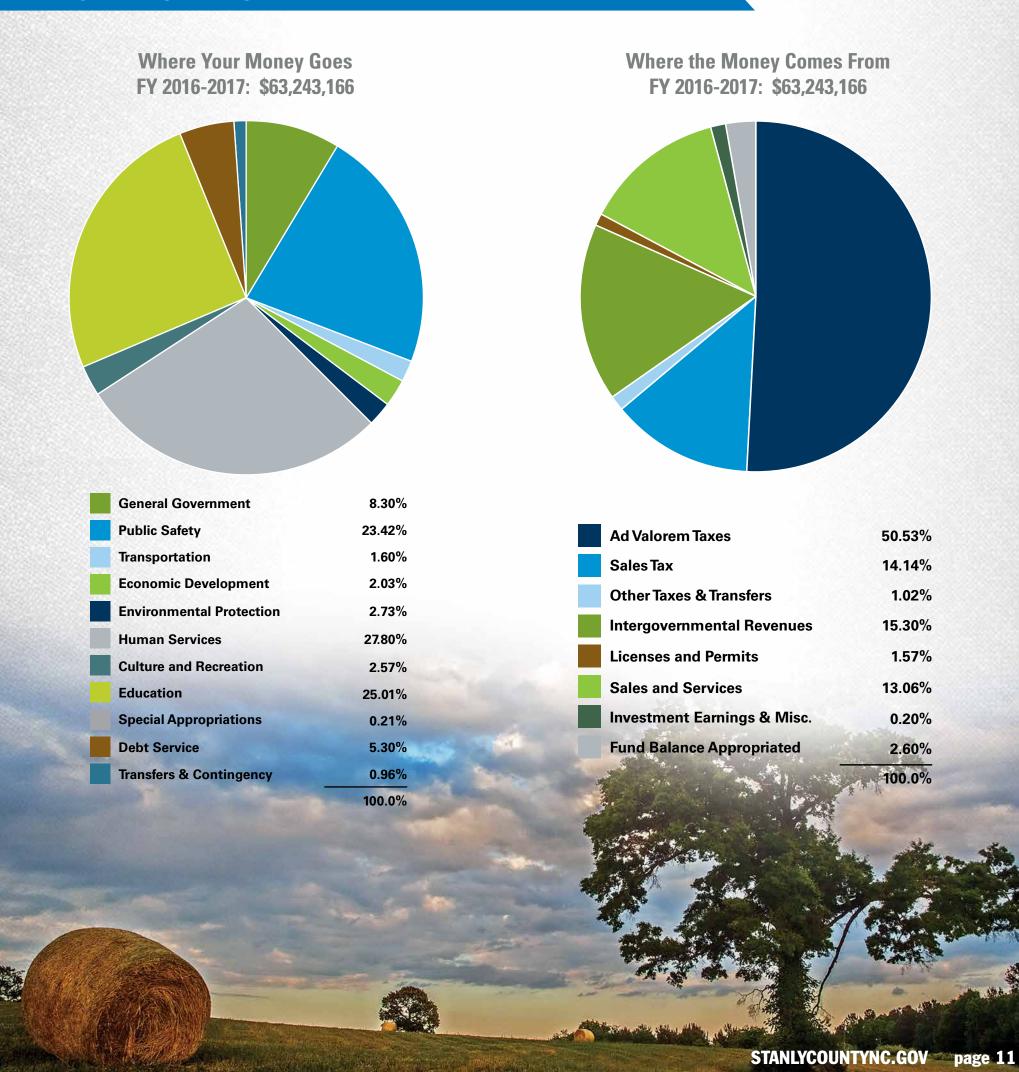
### **Atilities**

Stanly County Utilities is (SCU) responsible for distributing more than 1.5 million gallons of drinking water every day to more than 5,600 homes, schools, churches and businesses in Stanly County. SCU operates as four water systems – Stanly County, Greater Badin Water & Sewer District, Piney Point Water and Stanly Water & Sewer. SCU provides wastewater collection and treatment to over 700 customers in the Greater Badin district and collection of wastewater from northern part of Stanly County, the County Airport region, the Town of Red Cross, the communities of Palestine, Millingport, Ridgecrest and Aquadale. Our goal is to provide consistent first-rate service to all customers, promote economic development, and expand the system to accommodate more citizens each year.

- Part-B construction on Badin's Replacement of Water System Project.
- Airport Road Corridor Sewer Improvement Project construction began in August.
- Acquired a portion of the Pfeiffer University sewer system to serve private homes in the Village of Misenheimer.
- Operations staff relocated to the former NC Air National Guard Base on Guard Road; Administrative Offices will remain at Stanly Commons.



### FINANCIAL INFORMATION



# **DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY**

Department	Telephone	Web	Department Head
AGRI-CIVIC CENTER	(704) 986-3666	www.stanlyciviccenter.com	Doshia Swaringen dswaringen@stanlycountync.gov
AIRPORT	(704) 982-9013	www.stanlycountyairport.com	Ken Swaringen kswaringen@stanlycountync.gov
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	(704) 986-3600	www.stanlycountync.gov	Andy Lucas, County Manager alucas@stanlycountync.gov
CENTRAL PERMITTING	(704) 986-3057	www.stanlycountync.gov	Carol Almond ccalmond@stanlycountync.gov
COMMUNICATIONS	(704) 986-3700	www.stanlycountync.gov	Karen McDaniel kmcdaniel@stanlycountync.gov
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	(704) 983-3987	stanly.ces.ncsu.edu	Lori lvey lori_ivey@ncsu.edu
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	(704) 986-3682	www.stanlyedc.com	Michael Smith csmith@stanlyedc.com
ELECTIONS	(704) 986-3647	www.votestanlycounty.com	Kim Wilson kwilson@stanlycountync.gov
EMERGENCY SERVICES	(704) 986-3650	www.stanlycountync.gov	Brian Simpson bsimpson@stanlycountync.gov
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	(704) 986-3697	www.stanlycountync.gov	Todd Lowder tlowder@stanlycountync.gov
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	(704) 982-9171	www.health.co.stanly.nc.us	David Jenkins djenkins@stanlycountync.gov
INSPECTIONS	(704) 986-3667	www.stanlycountync.gov	Chris Moon cmoon@stanlycountync.gov
LIBRARY	(704) 986-3766	www.stanlycountylibrary.org	Melanie Holles mholles@stanlycountync.gov
PLANNING & ZONING	(704) 986-3660	www.stanlycountync.gov	Michael Sandy msandy@stanlycountync.gov
REGISTER OF DEEDS	(704) 986-3640	www.stanlyrod.net	Suzanne Lowder, Register of Deeds slowder@stanlycountync.gov
SCUSA TRANSPORTATION	(704) 986-3790	www.stanlycountync.gov	Candice Moffitt cmoffitt@stanlycountync.gov
SENIOR SERVICES	(704) 986-3769	www.stanlycountync.gov	Becky Weemhoff bweemhoff@stanlycountync.gov
SHERIFF'S OFFICE	(704) 986-3714	www.stanlysheriff.org	George Burris, Sheriff gtburris@stanlycountync.gov
SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS)	(704) 982-6100	www.stanlydss.com	Dolly Clayton dhclayton@stanlycountync.gov
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SERVICE	(704) 982-5114	www.stanlycountync.gov	Amanda Kirby akirby@stanlycountync.gov
SOLID WASTE	(704) 986-3897	www.stanlycountync.gov	Todd Lowder tlowder@stanlycountync.gov
TAX ADMINISTRATION	(704) 986-3619	www.stanlytax.com	Clinton Swaringen cswaringen@stanlycountync.gov
UTILITIES	(704) 986-3686	www.stanlycountync.gov	Donna Davis ddavis@stanlycountync.gov
VETERANS SERVICES	(704) 986-3694	www.stanlycountync.gov	Rod Barbee rbarbee@stanlycountync.gov